Data Sheet

USAID Mission:

Program Title:

Cross-Cutting Programs

Pillar:

Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade

Strategic Objective:

114-0420

Proposed FY 2004 Obligation:

\$3,680,000 FSA

Prior Year Unobligated:

\$4,735,000 FSA

Proposed FY 2005 Obligation:

\$7,100,000 FSA

Year of Final Obligation:

FY 2008

FY 2008

Summary: Cross-cutting programs under this objective support the needs and complement the implementation of five strategic objectives. Activities under this objective include: training (short-term and academic) and post-training support; institutional human resource assessment and analysis; public information; program development and support; and a small grants program to undertake innovative activities through indigenous NGOs and institutions and promote regional cooperation among the three Caucasus countries.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2004 Program:

Participant Training (\$1,200,000 FSA, \$1,000,000 FSA carryover). The participant training program supports all five strategic objectives and is intended to improve the performance of Georgians in their professional and work settings. USAID will identify skill and knowledge deficiencies or performance gaps of Georgian partner σ ganizations that need to be addressed through training. USAID will also ensure that training is applied in participant workplaces and is effectively utilized as evidenced by improved quality of program implementation. USAID participant training programs encourage alumni to share experiences and provide positive reinforcement to one another. USAID also supports capacity-development of local training providers through proposal writing and management workshops. Principal contractor: World Learning, Inc. USA.

Eurasia Foundation Georgia (EFG) Small Grants Program (\$1,730,000 FSA). In order to increase tourism revenues to Georgia, EFG plans to fund the establishment of a promotional agency that will market the Georgian tourism industry. This agency will be a public-private partnership that will market Georgia as a desirable destination with diverse natural, cultural, and heritage attractions. EFG also plans to carry out a case-writing competition to support preparation of case studies and tutorials based on Georgian business and management practices for use as teaching tools in business education programs in Georgia. In FY 2004, EFG is planning to facilitate youth integration into society by supporting the development of student activities and peer education. EFG will support the establishment of academic and professional exchanges for university faculties, and will fund student internships in the fields of journalism, law, environment, and social sciences. Special attention will be paid to the involvement of students from minority groups. Support for enhanced academic performance and development of students will result in their increased professionalism and better integration into society as well as the development of a more active citizenry.

In order to reduce corruption and increase the transparency of local governance EFG supports the strengthening of the public's role in government decision-making in Georgia's regions. EFG will expand the FY 2002 NGO Watchdog Initiative by building on the success of current grantee projects.

The South Caucasus Cooperation Program (SCCP) continues to build bonds among professional associations and NGOs in the three Caucasus countries. In FY 2004, SCCP will facilitate regional dialogue and information exchange by developing cross-border collaboration among independent media.

In addition, SCCP will support development of financial sector industries and tourism industries in the South Caucasus countries. Principal grantee: Eurasia Foundation.

Public Education and Outreach (\$500,000 FSA). This program will support activities designed to increase awareness and understanding of the general population, the press, and public officials about the benefits of economic and democratic reforms that USAID programs support. As a result of such activities, representatives of the Government of Georgia (GOG) in Tbilisi and the regions, and the public, will have a better understanding of the programs' contribution to the economic and social growth of Georgia.

Program development and support (\$250,000 FSA, \$1,632,868 FSA carryover, \$2,101,808 FSA prior year recoveries). USAID will utilize these funds to support program-funded staff and other costs related to program design and development.

FY 2005 Program:

Participant training (\$2,300,000 FSA). The participant training program will support training across the program areas. Specific training needs will be determined based on USAID's new strategic plan that will be implemented in FY 2005. Principal contractor: same as above.

Eurasia Foundation small grants program and SCCP (\$1,800,000 FSA). FY 2005 resources requested will continue to support activities identified in annual operating plans for EF Georgia and SCCP. Annual operating plans will be based on evaluation of past performance and progress toward planned results. The programs will fall within EF Georgia's mandate and USAID's strategic objectives.

Public Education and Outreach (\$1,500,000 FSA). This program will continue to advance the public understanding and awareness of major economic and democratic reforms undertaken by the GOG with the assistance of USAID implementers.

Program Development and Support (\$1,500,000 FSA). USAID will utilize these funds to support program-funded staff and other costs related to program design, development and evaluation.

Performance and Results: In FY 2003, USAID's Strategic Technical Assistance for Results with Training (START) program implemented 38 training events in three locations: 23 in-country, 10 in third-countries and five in the US. In addition to these training events, four follow-on programs and institutional analyses of two organizations that USAID helped to establish were conducted through the START program. A total of 1,758 participants were trained in the areas of humanitarian assistance, social transition, economic growth, democracy and governance, and energy and environment. Women accounted for 42% of all trainees. Action plans demonstrated participants' commitment to implementing new ideas and sharing knowledge. The capacity of selected local training providers was also strengthened.

In FY 2003, the Eurasia Foundation, awarded 46 grants to Georgian NGOs through open and targeted competitions. The Eurasia Foundation Small Grants Program supported the following: establishment of Local Government Information Centers and their network; school-based NGOs to improve transparency in the educational sector and increase public participation in decision-making at the school level; promotion of business education by strengthening the capacity of two leading business schools in Georgia; and parliamentary elections coverage through grants to independent television stations, radio stations, and newspapers.

SCCP supported the Public Policy Institute Development Initiative through competitions on adoption and implementation of European and international conventions and standards. Eight grants were awarded to facilitate regulation of Trans-boundary Environmental Resources. Three environmental information centers were opened in border towns of Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia. Other SCCP grants funded a regional cluster meeting on Cultural Policy and Management, the First South Caucasus Border Town Mayors Forum held in Tbilisi, and the preparation of emergency preparedness plans and training for 12 municipal services in Tbilisi, Baku and Yerevan.